

## Department of Computer Science and Engineering, IIT Madras

### MS/PhD admissions under NHTRA category

#### Eligibility criteria for NHTRA candidates: IITM Project, External, Part-time (Research Park (RP), Others)

- Candidates employed with companies outside IITM including in RP companies must have a No Objection Certificate (NOC) from the Employer at the time of application closing date.
- Prior degrees
  - For BTech / MTech, as per the HTRA criteria for MS and PhD respectively.
  - For other degrees, the admissions committee decides on a case-by-case basis.
- Shortlisting of eligible candidates for the written test will be based on the same cutoffs as per the HTRA norms.
- Minimum Experience (as of **application closing date** for the current interview round):
  - **External or Part-time (MS and PhD):** At least two years experience in relevant industry. The two years experience may be relaxed to 6 months for Part-time candidates working in IITM-RP, on a case-by-case basis. External Candidates need to be from an industry, organization, or institution having R&D facilities and recognized by DST (DSIR) or IITM. Part-time candidates must be employed in a reputed industry, organization, or institution located within commutable distance (within 50kms) of IITM.
  - **For Project-NHTRA-MS:** At least six months experience in IITM Project under the proposed guide.
  - **For Project-NHTRA-PhD:** At least twelve months experience in IITM Project under the proposed guide.
- A detailed Research Proposal, duly signed by the potential guide **MUST** be submitted during the time of the application. The deadline for submission of the research proposal and the link to submit the same is available on the [admissions page](#). Without this signed proposal, the candidate will NOT be shortlisted.

#### Written test and interview process

- Written test (same as HTRA candidates) is **mandatory for all Part-time/External/Project candidates and will be taken along with the HTRA candidates. Waiver for written test will be permitted if the following holds:**

- The candidate has **completed** at least two “eligible” courses with a certain minimum performance as explained below:
  - First, a course is declared “eligible” if it is a 5000 level and above course in the CSE Department of IIT Madras. Allied Department (e.g. DA/MA/EE) courses that are relevant to CSE topics can also be considered eligible, provided the Admissions Committee approves it on a case-by-case basis.
  - obtained a minimum grade of ‘C’ in each eligible course;
  - a minimum CGPA of 7.5.
- **Interview Process:** As mentioned above, the interview will be conducted only if there is a proposal signed by the potential guide.
  - A separate panel will be convened by the Head of the Dept. to interview NHTRA candidates.
  - Interview questions will be on:
    - Technical aspects of the research proposal and necessary background material for the proposed research and on basic subject(s) in computer science that are relevant to the proposed research.